Divided Supreme Court rules in major homelessness case that outdoor sleeping bans are OK



Brock Spurgeon, second from left, puts away signs after demonstrating outside City Hall, March 20, 2024, in Grants Pass, Ore.

Associated Press





Divided Supreme Court rules in major homelessness case that outdoor sleeping bans are OK

From Front

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court cleared the way for cities to enforce bans on homeless people sleeping outside in public places on Friday, overturning a ruling from a California-based appeals court that found such laws amount to cruel and unusual punishment when shelter space is lacking.

The case is the high court's most significant ruling on the issue in decades and comes as a rising number of people in the U.S. are without a permanent place to live.

In a 6-3 decision along ideological lines, the high court found that outdoor sleeping bans don't violate the Eighth Amendment.

Western cities had argued that the ruling made it harder to manage outdoor encampments in public spaces, but homeless advocates said punishing people who need a place to sleep would criminalize homelessness.

In California, which is home to one-third of the country's homeless population, Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom said the decision gives state and local officials the authority to clear "unsafe encampments" from the streets while acting with compassion. "This decision removes the legal ambiguities that have tied



Frank, a homeless man, sits in his tent with a river view, June 5, 2021, in Portland, Ore. **Associated Press**

the hands of local officials for years," he said.

Justice Neil Gorsuch acknowledged those concerns in the opinion he wrote for the majority. "Homelessness is complex. Its causes are many. So may be the public policy responses required to address it," he wrote. "A handful of federal judges cannot begin to 'match' the collective wisdom the American people possess in deciding 'how best to handle' a pressing social question like homelessness." He suggested that people who have no choice but to sleep outdoors could raise that as a "necessity defense," if they are ticketed or otherwise punished for violating a camping ban. Homeless advocates, on the other hand, have said that allowing cities to punish people who have no other place to sleep would ultimately make the crisis worse. Cities had been allowed to regulate encampments under a U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling but couldn't completely bar people from sleeping outdoors.

"Sleep is a biological necessity, not a crime," said Justice Sonia Sotomayor, reading from the bench a dissent joined by her liberal colleagues. "Homelessness is a reality for so many Americans." Punishing people for something they can't control, like homelessness, is cruel and unusual, she said. She warned that striking down Eighth Amendment arguments against camping bans likely won't end the fights over the ordinances in court. Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, a Democrat, criticized the majority ruling, saying cities shouldn't "attempt to arrest their way out of this problem or hide the homelessness crisis in neighboring cities or in jail." The only way to truly address it, she said,

is to connect people with housing and services.

The case came from the rural Oregon town of Grants Pass, which appealed a ruling striking down local ordinances that fined people \$295 for sleeping outside after tents began crowding public parks. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which has jurisdiction over the nine Western states, has held since 2018 that such bans violate the Eighth Amendment in areas where there aren't enough shelter beds.

Grants Pass Mayor Sara Bristol told The Associated Press that the city will not immediately start enforcing those local ordinances fining people for sleeping outside and that the city council will need to review the decision and determine the next steps.

"This lawsuit was about whether cities have a right to enforce camping restrictions in public spaces, and I'm relieved that Grants Pass will be able to reclaim our city parks for recreation," said Bristol, who serves in a nonpartisan position. "Homelessness is a complex issue, and our community has been trying to find solutions."

Attorney Theane Evangelis, who represented Grants Pass before the high court, applauded the ruling, saying the 9th Circuit decision had "tied the hands of local governments."



The container ship Dali, owned by Grace Ocean PTE, rests against wreckage of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in the Patapsco River, March 27, 2024, as seen from Pasadena, Md. **Associated Press**

By SEUNG MIN KIM **Associated Press** WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is seeking

roughly \$4 billion in addition-

al emergency funding from Congress for costs related to the collapse and repair of the Francis Scott Key bridge in Baltimore and to respond

The White House wants \$4 billion to rebuild Key Bridge in Baltimore and respond to other disasters

to other disasters that have occurred around the U.S. in recent months.

That money is part of a new emergency request from President Joe Biden's administration that essentially re-ups a broader, \$56 billion ask from last October that Congress virtually ignored. Now, the Democratic administration is asking for that same pot of money again, but with billions added to deal with the bridge reconstruction and related costs. More specifically, the Biden

administration wants an additional \$3.1 billion for the Department of Transportation, which would go toward rebuilding Key Bridge with the federal government picking up the entire tab. Nearly \$80 million would go to the Coast Guard to compensate for its "unplanned costs" responding to the March bridge collapse, and another \$33 million would be designated for the Army Corps of Engineers for expenses related to wreckage removal after the bridge was struck by a

cargo ship.

The request from the Biden administration is detailed in a letter from Shalanda Young, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, addressed to House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., being sent on Friday. Young says that making this money available "would ensure that the federal government fulfills its responsibility to rebuild Baltimore without endangering America's ability to respond to other recent or future disasters across the nation." \square



U.S. removes Gaza aid pier due to weather and may not put it back, officials say

By TARA COPP and LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The pier built by the U.S. military to bring aid to Gaza has been removed due to weather to protect it, and the U.S. is considering not re-installing it unless the aid begins flowing out into the population again, U.S. officials said Friday.

While the military has helped deliver desperately needed food through the pier, the vast majority of it is still sitting in the adjacent storage yard and that area is almost full. Aid agencies have had difficulty moving the food to areas further into Gaza where it is most needed because the humanitarian convoys have come under attack.

The U.N., which has the widest reach in delivering aid to starving Palestinians, hasn't been distributing food and other emergency supplies arriving through the pier since June 9. The pause came after the Israeli military used an area near the pier to fly out hostages after their rescue in a raid that killed more than 270 Palestinians, prompting a U.N. security review over concerns that aid workers' safety and neutrality may have com-



U.S. Army soldiers stand next to trucks arriving loaded with humanitarian aid at the U.S.-built floating pier Trident before reaching the beach on the coast of the Gaza Strip, Tuesday, June 25,

Associated Press

promised.

U.N. World Food Program spokesman Steve Taravella said Friday that the U.N. participation in the pier project is still on pause pending resolution of the security concerns.

While always meant to be temporary and never touted as a complete solution to the problems getting humanitarian aid into Gaza, President Joe Biden's \$230 million project has faced

a series of setbacks since aid first rolled ashore May 17 and has been criticized by relief groups and congressional Republicans as a costly distraction.

The pier has been used to get more than 19.4 million pounds, or 8.6 million kilograms, of food into Gaza, but has been stymied not only by aid pauses but unpredictable weather. Rough seas damaged the pier just days into its initial operations, forcing the military to remove it temporarily for repairs and then reinstall it. Heavy seas on Friday forced the military to remove it again and take it to the Israeli port at Ashdod. Several U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss military movements, said the military could reinstall the pier once the bad weather passes in the coming days, but the final decision on whether to reinstall it hasn't been made. Sabrina Singh, a Pentagon spokeswoman, acknowledged that she doesn't know when the pier will be reinstalled. "When the commander decides that it is the right time to reinstall that pier, we'll keep you updated on that.," she said. She also said Friday that there is a need for more aid to come into Cyprus and be transported to the pier. She noted that the secure area onshore is "pretty close to full," but that the intention is still to get aid into Gaza by all means necessary. She said the U.S. is having discussions with the aid agencies about the distribution of the food.

But, she added, "Of course, if there's not enough room in the marshalling yard, then it doesn't make sense to put our men or women out there when there's nothing to do."

Palestinians are facing widespread hunger because fighting in the nearly nine-month Israel-Hamas war, Israeli restrictions on border crossings that are far more productive than the sea route and the attacks on the aid convoys have severely limited the flow of food, medicine and other supplies.

Scorching heat in the US Southwest kills three migrants in the desert near the Arizona-Mexico border

By ANITA SNOW **Associated Press**

PHOENIX (AP) — Three Mexican migrants have died in the Sonoran Desert in Arizona near the U.S.-Mexico border as high temperatures soar well into of the Southwest.

The U.S. Border Patrol reported Friday that the bodies of two men, ages 44 and 18, and a 17-yearold girl were found in the desert early Wednesday in an area called Sheep Mountain, which is in southwestern Arizona on the Barry M. Goldwater

Range, a remote military training area near the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge.

A rescue beacon for migrants to call for help had been activated, setting off a search by land and air. the triple digits across parts Another member of the group of four was found the National Weather alive. The bodies were taken to the Pima County Medical Examiner's Office for autopsies. The Mexican Consulate was notified.

> The high temperatures this week in Arizona's lower deserts and Phoenix this week have been averaging 110 to 115 who are outside in the sun

degrees Fahrenheit (43 to 46 C) as the region swelters through an excessive heat watch that extends into the Lower Colorado Valley and southeastern California. In Las Vegas, where the high was expected to hit 103 degrees F (39 C) on Friday, Service said hotter than normal temperatures in the triple digits are expected over the next week because of a ridge of high pressure over the western United States.

Those kinds of temperatures can spell danger for people



The border between the United States and Mexico, at right, cuts through the Sonoran Desert at the base of the Baboquivari Mountains, Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, near Sasabe, Ariz.

for hours.

"The terrain along the border is extreme, the relentless summer heat is severe, and remote areas where smugglers bring migrants is unforgiving," said Deputy Border Chief Patrol

Agent Justin De La Torre of the agency's Tucson Sector. "Far too many people who made the decision to place their lives into the hands of the criminal organizations have died of dehydration, and heat stroke."



Biden administration extends temporary legal status to 300,000 Haitians, drawing a contrast to Trump

By ELLIOT SPAGAT and RE-BECCA SANTANA Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — About 300,000 Haitians already in the United States will now be eligible for temporary legal status allowing them to remain in the U.S. and work because conditions in the strife-torn Caribbean nation are considered unsafe for them to return, the Homeland Security Department said Friday.

The decision marks a major expansion of Temporary Protected Status for Haitians and won praise from many in the Haitian and immigration advocacy community.

The TPS designation was created by Congress in 1990 to prevent deportations to countries suffering natural disasters or civil strife. The Homeland Security secretary can grant temporary protection for different nationalities based on conditions in their home countries. It's generally for a designated period, and people have to apply for the protection and prove they qualify for it. The protection also allows them to apply for a work permit.

This expansion will apply



Migrants prepare to depart the U.S. Customs and Border Protection - Marathon Border Patrol Station in Marathon, Fla. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

Associated Press

to Haitians who were in the United States on June 3 and will last until Feb. 3, 2026. Anyone arriving after June 3 would not qualify. Separately, Mayorkas also extended the Temporary Protected Status of an estimated 200,000 Haitians who already had it. Their extension will also last through Feb. 3, 2026.

The move one of the larg-

est expansions of TPS draws another sharp policy contrast on immigration between President Joe Biden and his predecessor, Donald Trump, who sought to end temporary status for many countries, including Haiti, during his tenure in the White House.

Gangs have pillaged their way through the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince

and surrounding areas, killing, raping and kidnapping thousands of people in recent years and leaving hundreds of thousands of others homeless and unemployed, which in turn has deepened poverty.

"Several regions in Haiti continue to face violence or insecurity, and many have limited access to safety, health care, food,

and water," Homeland Security said in a press release. "Haiti is particularly prone to flooding and mudslides, and often experiences significant damage due to storms, flooding, and earthquakes. These overlapping humanitarian challenges have resulted in ongoing urgent humanitarian needs."

About 200,000 Haitians already have TPS under previous offers, according to the Congressional Research Service, the first one after a devastating earthquake in 2010 and the second amid political turmoil in 2021.

One of those people is Fanor Massolas. He's originally from a town in southern Haiti. He qualified for the temporary protection granted in 2010. With it, he's able to work at the Los Angeles airport where he has a job with a contractor. He said it's always stressful wondering whether the protection will be renewed but it's better than not having any protection at all. Going back to Haiti is not an option, Massolas said. Massolas said he considers the U.S. his home even though he doesn't have

Yellowstone officials: Rare white buffalo sacred to Native Americans not seen since June 4 birth

By COLLEEN SLEVIN
Associated Press

Yellowstone National Park Native Americans has not

officials said Friday a rare white buffalo sacred to Native Americans has not

Miss Shoshnone-Bannock Queen Develynn Hall takes the stage during a naming ceremony for a white buffalo calf at the headquarters of the Buffalo Field Campaign in West Yellowstone, Mont., Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

Associated Press

been seen since its birth on June 4.

The birth of the white buffalo, which fulfilled a Lakota prophecy that portends better times, was the first recorded in Yellowstone history and is a landmark event for the ecocultural recovery of bison, said park officials in confirming the birth for the first time.

It is an extraordinarily rare occurrence: A white buffalo is born in the wild once in every 1 million births, or even less frequently, the park said

Whether the calf – named Wakan Gli, which means "Return Sacred" in Lakota – is still alive is unknown.

The park's statement men-

tioned that each spring, about one in five calves die shortly after birth due to natural hazards but officials declined to directly respond to questions about whether they believed it has died.

They confirmed the birth of the white buffalo also called bison after receiving photos and reports from multiple park visitors, professional wildlife watchers, commercial guides and researchers. But since June 4, park staffers have not been able to find it and officials are not aware of any other confirmed sightings in the park, one of the last sanctuaries for free-roaming American bison.

Native American leaders earlier this week held a ceremony to honor the sacred birth of the white buffalo and give the name.

citizenship.

The creature's birth fulfills a Lakota prophecy that portends better times, according to members of the tribe who caution that it is also a signal that more must be done to protect the earth and its animals. Suspicion about the fate of the calf has grown as weeks have passed without another sighting since it was born in the Lamar Valley, a prime spot for wildlife viewing in Yellowstone. Young buffalo can fall victim to predators, river currents, illness and other hazards.



Japan protests sex assault cases involving US military on Okinawa and their delayed disclosure

By MARI YAMAGUCHI **Associated Press**

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's government protested Friday to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo over at least two sexual assault cases involving American servicemembers on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa which were only recently made public.

In one case, an Air Force member is accused of assaulting a 16-year-old girl in December, while the other, which dates from May, involves a Marine who is accused of assaulting a 21-year-old woman.

The case involving the assault of the teenager is a reminder to many Okinawans of the high-profile 1995 rape of a 12-year-old girl by three U.S. servicemembers, which sparked massive protests against the heavy U.S. troop presence on Okinawa. It led to a 1996 agreement between Tokyo and Washington on a closure of a key U.S. air station, though the plan has been delayed due to protests at the site designated for its relocation on another part of the island.



Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki meets journalists at Okinawa Prefectural Government Office in Naha, southern Japan Friday, June 28, 2024.

Associated Press

Some 50,000 U.S. troops are na. Japan's southwestern deployed in Japan under about half of them on Oki- wa and its nearby islands. is seen increasingly important for the Japan-U.S. military alliance in the face of growing tensions with Chi-

shift of its own military also a bilateral security pact, focuses heavily on Okinanawa, whose strategic role Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters Friday it was "extremely regrettable" the two alleged sexual assaults

occurred within months. Japan "takes it seriously" and Vice Foreign Minister Masataka Okano conveyed regrets to U.S. Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel, requesting disciplinary and preventive measures, Hayashi said.

"I believe that the U.S. side also takes this matter seriously," Hayashi said. "Criminal cases and accidents by U.S. military personnel cause great anxiety to local residents, and they should never occur in the first place."

The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo declined to confirm details of the meeting between Emanuel and Okano and how the ambassador responded, citing diplomatic rules.

Hayashi said Japanese prosecutors in Naha, the capital of Okinawa, had pressed charges of nonconsensual sex and assault charges against the Marine on June 17, which were only announced on Friday. Both suspects were handled by the Japanese authorities.

The Naha District Prosecutors' Office refused to confirm indictments in the two cases over the phone with anyone who is not a local press club member.

Okinawa prefectural police said the two cases were never made public out of consideration for the privacy of the victims.

Dutch rights groups go back to court seeking to limit export of fighter jet parts to Israel

By MIKE CORDER **Associated Press** THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Human rights groups returned to a Dutch court Friday seeking stricter enforcement of a court order to halt Dutch exports to Israel of parts for F-35 fighter jets used in the Gaza war, saying that the parts likely still wind up in Israel via the United States.

An appeals court ordered the Dutch government in February to halt the export of F-35 fighter jet parts to Israel, citing a clear risk of violations of international law if they are used in strikes on Gaza. The government has appealed that ruling, but says it is abiding by the order pending the outcome by halting direct exports to Israel.

However, lawyer Liesbeth Zegveld told a judge at a summary hearing at The Hague District Court that Dutch F-35 parts are still being delivered to other countries, notably staunch

Israeli ally the United States and urged the judge to ensure those deliveries also do not wind up in Israel.

"We know that Dutch companies supply the United States and that they are



Israeli army tanks are seen in Wadi Gaza, central Gaza Strip, Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

Associated Press

also the only producer of some parts, including spare parts, and that the United States delivers parts to Israel and that the Dutch state has no control over deliveries from the United States or, at least, it does not want to enforce control," Zegveld said.

She added that if the court decides the government is not abiding by the earlier ban it should be ordered to pay a penalty of 50,000 euros (\$53,500) each day until it complies.

Reimer Veldhuis, a lawyer representing the Dutch state, told the court the Netherlands is abiding by the earlier order and cautioned that seeking to prevent more exports of F-35 parts to nations other than Israel could put at risk supplies to militaries around the world who operate the advanced fighter jets at a time of soaring international tensions.

Rolien Sasse, of the Dutch rights group PAX, told the court it should order the Netherlands to take proactive measures to prevent parts made in the Netherlands being installed in Israeli fighter jets. PAX launched the summary proceedings along with Oxfam Novib and The Rights Forum.

She said the government "has a duty to ensure that no Dutch component can end up in Israel, not even via the US.

It is this route that is still wide open. The government must also close this firmly."



Bolivia says it detained 4 more suspects, widening its case over the failed coup attempt

By MEGAN JANETSKY and **PAOLA FLORES Associated Press**

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Officials in Bolivia announced Friday they had arrested four military officers in connection with a thwarted coup against President Luis Arce's government, broadening the case to include more suspects in the armed forces' takeover attempt that shocked the South American country.

Senior Cabinet member Eduardo del Castillo said at a news conference that those newly detained include the driver of a tank that repeatedly rammed into the doors of the government headquarters on Wednesday and a former infantry captain accused of giving orders to soldiers who stormed the capital's central Plaza Murillo.

The total number of those under arrest is 21, including Gen. Juan JoséZúñiga, who led the failed coup.

Around 200 military officers took part in the attempted coup, Bolivia's ambassador to the Organization of



People arrested in connection with the previous day's uprising are presented by police to the press in La Paz, Bolivia, Thursday, June 27, 2024.

Associated Press

American States said Thursday. "These people commanded the destruction of Bolivian heritage," del Castillo said.

Zúñiga, who was arrested Wednesday and was the commanding general of Bolivia's army, has alleged, without providing evidence, that Arce ordered him to carry out the rebel-

Zúñiga claimed the takeover was all a ruse to boost Arce's flagging popularity as he struggles to manage a spiraling economy, deepening political divisions and bubbling public discontent. Arce on Thursday vigorously denied the accusations. The embattled president is vying with powerful former President Evo Morales over who will be their party's candidate in the presidential election next year.

The escalating political feud has left Bolivians disillusioned and bewildered as to what really happened during those three chaotic hours Wednesday when tanks rolled into downtown La Paz, and Arce confronted the putschists face-toface and ordered them to back off.

Whether Zúñiga's allegations about Arce are true or whether the disgruntled general simply sought to exploit Bolivia's mounting crises for his own benefit remains unclear.

Authorities say the 21 detainees include a man suspected of conducting intelligence work outside the presidential palace as the coup was underway, and an army sergeant who allegedly coordinated the coup using FaceTime and other social media apps. On Friday, crowds gathered around a La Paz jail, with one visibly anxious group waiting to meet their family members detained inside, and another rowdy group rallying in support of the government, setting off fireworks and calling for Zúñiga to be punished.

Putin calls for resuming production of intermediate missiles after scrapping of treaty with U.S.

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian essary to ensure our safety is known that the United President Vladimir Putin on Friday called for resuming production of intermediate-range missiles that were banned under a nowscrapped treaty with the United States.

Intermediate-Range treaty, Nuclear Forces which banned groundbased nuclear and conventional missiles with a range of 500-5,500 kilometers (310-3,410 miles), was reaarded as an arms control landmark when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan signed it in 1988.

The U.S. withdrew from the treaty in 2019, citing Russian violations.

"We need to start production of these strike systems and then, based on the actual situation, make decisions about where if necat a meeting of Russia's national security council.

Putin said Russia had not produced such missiles since the 2019 treaty scrapping, but that "today it

to place them," Putin said States not only produces these missile systems, but has already brought them to Europe for exercises, to Denmark.

> Quite recently it was announced that they are in



A Russian military officer walks past the 9M729 land-based cruise missile on display in Kubinka outside Moscow, Russia, on Jan. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

the Philippines."

Since the treaty was scrapped, the U.S. has tested missiles that would have been banned by the INF treaty.

The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun in April cited the U.S. Army's Pacific commander Gen. Charles Flynn as savina that such a missile would be deployed in the region by the end of the year. The report said such a deployment would be the first since the end of the treaty.

The end of the INF was a weapons. milestone in the deterioration of relations between the U.S. and Russia.

The last remaining armscontrol pact between Washington and Moscow is the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, which limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers. It's set to expire in 2026, and the lack of dialogue on anchoring a successor deal has worried arms control advocates.

Putin's statement comes amid rising tensions between Russia and the West over the conflict in Ukraine and concern about possible nuclear attacks.

Putin in June spoke to executives from international news organizations about Moscow's use of nuclear

"We have a nuclear doctrine, look what it says," he said.

"If someone's actions threaten our sovereignty and territorial integrity, we consider it possible for us to use all means at our disposal. This should not be taken lightly, superficially."

First Phase of Restoration Project for Cas Veneranda Completed

If you pass by Cas Veneranda on Wilhelminastraat, you will notice that work has stopped and the entrances to the building have been closed again. The restoration project has not stopped, but the first phase has been completed.

During the past two and a half months, the contractor General Property Services carried out the demolition of modifications made in 1978 to convert the house into the Papiamento restaurant by the cousins, Martin & Irvin Tauber. Afterward, the Ellis family took over the restaurant in December 1984, and by the late 1990s, when they moved the restaurant, the house was left vacant. Mrs. Landa Merryweather sealed the house some years later to prevent unauthorized persons from entering. Unfortunately, in 2014, a major fire completely burned the roof. During the demolition work, Stichting Monumentenfonds Aruba (SMFA) removed all the non-original modifications and reopened the openings that had been sealed to prevent unauthorized access to the building. During this first phase, everything that was not original was removed, and an investigation continued. Details that were not previously visible were discovered during the demolition work, providing some clarity on the building's original state. With all the information obtained, the preparations for the next phase, which will be the actual restoration, will be finalized by September.

In addition to the demolition work, the house and the grounds have been completely cleaned. SMFA found a lot of trash on the grounds at Wilhelminastraat, which had been used as a dump. Thanks to the cooperation of Minister Arends, the City Inspector team, and Serlimar, the grounds were cleaned. SMFA asks the community to help keep the area clean during and after the restoration

Cas Veneranda

This striking building on Wilhelminastraat 7 was constructed in 1936 for Federico Maximiliaan (Machi) Arends, who was the Spanish consul. The architect was the wellknown master builder Dada Picus, who went to Colombia to find inspiration from a building that Machi's wife, Maria Veneranda, loved, and then returned to Aruba to build the structure we now know as Cas Veneranda. One of the largest houses in Aruba at that time, it served multiple purposes. It was not only a residence but also housed the first "Super" ice cream shop and the first location of Masyfral. Oncha's flower shop and the Spanish consulate were also located in the building. In the late 1970s, the building was converted into the Papiamento restaurant. During the last two years, the Papiamento restaurant also operated as a nightclub (Club Nouveau) after the restaurant closed at night. After Papiamento restaurant vacated the



building in the late 1990s, it remained empty. In 2023, Stichting Monumentenfonds Aruba reached a purchase agreement with the heirs of Machi Arends, and in March 2024, the official transfer of the building took place to begin the restoration. The project is co-financed by Algemeen Pensioenfonds

Aruba (APFA) along with the Nationaal Restauratiefonds of the Netherlands (NRF) and the Ministry of Economy, Communication, and Sustainable Development. After the restoration, the monument will become the office of DEACI and will also have a space for hospitality services.

Meteo Aruba is monitoring two tropical waves that could develop and reach the Caribbean region

The hurricane season is in full swing, and so far, Aruba has not felt any significant effects, aside from some showers. Recently, it became

known that Meteo Aruba is monitoring two tropical waves that could develop into storms and enter the Caribbean region, poten-

tially affecting Aruba.

In the Central Tropical Atlantic, there is a system designated as AL95, which is a

Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook
National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida

Www.hurricanes.gov

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Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance:
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone:

Depression

Fluricane

Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

low-pressure system located approximately 1400 miles east-southeast of the Windward Islands. It is becoming better defined, with its showers and thunderstorms becoming more organized. If this trend continues, a tropical depression is likely to form soon. This system is expected to move westward at a speed of 15 to 20 mph and could pass near the Windward Islands by the end of this weekend. Hurricane or tropical storm watches may be required for some parts of the region.

This tropical wave has a 90% chance of development and is expected to reach the Caribbean in a few days. The exact trajectory is not yet certain.

In the Eastern Tropical Atlantic, there is another tropical wave located about 100 miles southwest of the Cape Verde Islands, producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Slow develop-

ment of this system is possible next week as it moves generally westward at a speed of 15 to 20 mph across the central and western tropical Atlantic. This tropical wave has a 20% chance of development.

The Crisis Management Office emphasizes that this hurricane season is expected to be more active in the Caribbean region compared to previous years that largely avoided impacts due to La Niña conditions. It is forecasted that there will be 85% more hurricane activity.

The hurricane season started on June 1 and officially ends on November 30. During this season, official agencies recommend that all citizens remain vigilant for any issued alerts and avoid panic if necessary. It is also important for residents to be prepared with essential supplies at home in case of a storm.



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Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names

Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Ayo

Ajo, or Ayo, is a word with Arawak-Indian origin.





A (or Ha) is an Indo-Antillean generalizing word. If you were to change a part of the word "Ayo", namely 'Yo', to 'Yu' and make 'Ayu', it would mean "white."

However, as we now know, the name of the neighborhood is 'Ayo'. The word 'Yo' stands for Yocahu, which is another word for 'creator' in Arawak/Taino and in the Papiamento spoken today, 'Ayo' means 'bye'.

At Ayo, you can find some of the most well known rock formations. These formations became a well loved and visited attraction at Aruba that is held in high regards by both tourists and locals alike.

If you'd like to know more about the rock formations at Ayo, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all about its location and history.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; A.

Alto Vista





This word combination can be roughly translated to a 'high point of view' and the neighborhood received this name from the Hill.

In the surrounding areas, DomingoAntonia Silvestre built his by his own means the very first chapel or church of Aruba. The walls of this church were made with rocks but the roof was made of dry corn stalks. The church was inaugurated by father Pablo Algemesi

If you'd like to know more about the Alto Vista Church's beautiful history, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all you need to know about it for when you visit it.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; AV.

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at the Bucuti & Tara Beach resort!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is pre- Distinguished Visitors sented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as fol-

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba) Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba) Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Mr. Edward Warzecka & Ms. Amanda Sweeney from Holyoke Massachusetts, United States.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- The people of Aruba are very friendly.
- Aruba's Safety.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
 - "Peace & Relaxation"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".



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Forgotten gems

Open air movie theaters

(Oranjestad)—During the span of over 100 years, Aruba only saw five open air movie theatres. Now practically obsolete on the island, these theaters were once frequently visited by locals and migrants in the 20th century.

The first open air theater was constructed in 1920 and was commissioned by Shon Eduard (Eddy) de Veer. This theater was located at the Hotel Colombia in Oraniestad, which is now where



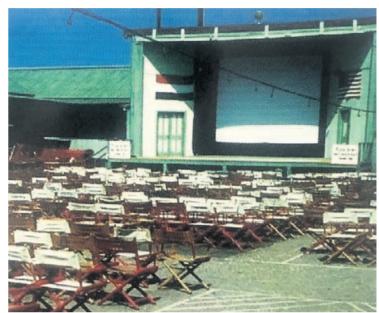
the Aruban census office is located. The theater was simple; it only consisted of a screen, and visitors had to bring their own chairs to enjoy the popular silent movies of the time.

American migrants who worked in the refinery and lived in the Lago Colony in Sero Colorado also had their piece of the pie with their Open air Theatre, which formed part of the Esso Club, also known as the Pan-Am Club. It was at this theater that "Talkies" were first streamed, movies with sound. This theater mostly streamed American blockbusters for the American expats, this way making sure that these migrant were not missing out on entertainment from their home land.

In the 1950's and 60's, Savaneta saw their own open air theater, located in front of the Marinier's Kazerne (Marine Barracks). This theater was mostly visited by the neighboring marines, who didn't have much entertainment other than movies at that time.

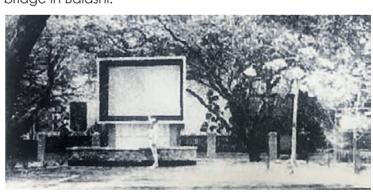
The last and most recent open air theater was constructed in the form of a drive-in theater. A popular American concept, the Drive Inn located in Balashi was a hot spot for teenagers, who had the habit of cramming all their friends in one car to go see the movies. For this phenomenon there was a separate price that you had to pay called the "car crash".

This theater closed around 2012, but was re-opened during the pandemic in July 2020, where movies were streamed on a gigantic screen set up in front of stacked containers. However, this nostalgic form of entertainment did not last



very long as it was closed again only a year or two later. Nowadays you can still see the stacked containers when you drive near the bridge in Balashi.

Source: "De kolibrie op de rots en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba" by Evert Bongers.





Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Efraim Pena Sanchez from Mara-

He wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is a window to the beautiful & wild Carib-

caibo, Venezuela.

bean."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!





Did you know about...?

The history and meaning of the Aruban florin

(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today is proud to officially introduce a new segment called Did you know about...?, where we dive into some (historical) facts of Aruba, its culture and way of living. In this first edition, we look back at the Aruban florin: its history, design and symbolism.

In Aruba, we know the 5, 10, 25 and 50 cent coins, along with the 1 and 5 Florin coin. Aruban Florin bills include the 10, 25, 50, 100, and rarely, the 200 bills. In Papiamento we call our currency Florin, but the umbrella term for money is placa. Cents are called cen (pronounced: seng), both in the singular and plural form. Most coins are circular and their size depend on their worth. However, the 50 cent coin is easily recognizable by their square shape, as is the 5 Florin coin by their golden color. Every coin has the Aruban emblem carved on it, with the other side displaying the worth of the coin. The bigger 1 and 5 florin coins, however, contain the carving of the emblem on one side, while displaying the side profile of the Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, on the other side. When his mother, Princess Beatrix, was reigning queen, it was her profile that was carved on the two coins.

Outdated Aruban coins and their names

In the past, Aruban coins had distinctive names and also varied in worth. For example, a 5-cent coin was once called Dos placa; 10-cent coins were called debchi; 25-cent coins were called diez placa and the 50-cent coin was once called Yotin (pronounced: jo-teen). We also used a distinctive coins worth 2 ½ cents, called placa too. However, this last coin is no longer in use and has become a relic of Aruban money. Back then, the 5-Florin coin used to also be square, but now it is circular.

Aruban bills: their design and symbolism

The Aruban Florin collection contains a variation of colorful bills, displaying incredibly detailed and beautiful designs that tell the story of Aruba on a single piece of paper.

Prior to 2019, the Aruban Florin bills were relatively simpler in design compared to now, but still included beautiful designs and colors, often depicting local animals. These past designs were made by the Aruban



artist Everino Fingal in 1990 up to 2019. Between 1990 and 1993, the 5 Florin coin was a bill. The Fingal designs also included a 500-Florin bill, which has now been discontinued.

In 2019, the Central Bank of Aruba commissioned a new design of the Aruba Florin bills, this time selecting artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew, to present his new design. Matthew kept the tradition of including local animals and the familiar colors on the bills. However, he included additional designs that represent the Aruban culture and link to the Indigenous inhabitants that were the first to set foot on the island.

Current design and symbolism 10 florin

On the 10-florin bill, you can see a Turtuga blanco (white turtle). The blue color symbolizes the blue Caribbean Sea. You can also see the ruins of the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins, a coral motif, and the symbols of Cas Floria (traditional Aruban house design) with a piece of mosaic.

25 florin

On this orange bill, you can see an Aruban medicinal plant called Shoshoro. The birds Trupiaal, Shoco, rock drawings, and the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic are also depicted. There is also a Purun di ceramica (clay pot), in reference to the relics left behind by our indigenous ancestors.

50 florin

On this bill, we see the Cododo (blue lizard found on the ABC islands), Cangreu di tera (land crab), Willem III Tower, and again the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, as well as a beach plant called Banana di rif. The colors are pink/purple.

100 florin

This bill is green in color, representing nature. Here we see the Yuwana (Iguana), Aloe, Toteki (lizard), the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, and a dance group performing the Baile di cinta (forkloric dance with silk ribbons).

200 florin

There is another bill with a value of 200 dollars. The brown color symbolizes the earth of Aruba. Here we see the Dornasol and the Warawara—both local birds, along with the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, the Tuna cactus plant, and the Caha di orgel (folkloric instrument, used for many traditional songs).

Extra fact:

the word "florin" supposedly is named after the Italian city of Florence or it's a reference to the Italian word "florino", both explanations related to historical Italian currencies.

Source: Placa, placa, placa by the National Library of Aruba





In celebration of 200 years of the Aruban gold rush: Get to know the history of the gold industry on Aruba

















(Oranjestad)—This year we celebrate a few milestone anniversaries on Aruba, one of them being the 200th anniversary of when gold was first discovered on the island. We have talked about the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin before and its brief history during the gold industry on Aruba, but get to know a little more about the history of the "Aruban Gold Rush."

The first hint of gold on Aruba actually dates back to 1725, when rumors about gold being found in dug up treasure chests of the Spanish colonial era prompted the first official exploration for gold on the island, commissioned by the Dutch West India Company. Under the leadership of Mr. Paulus Printz, a three-year search was conducted on Aruba, to no avail. Though they found some specks of gold, it was not enough to motivate a further search, and the assignment was discontinued by Printz himself. It wasn't until 100 years later, in 1824, when a young farmer boy named Willem Rasmijn found a lump of gold while out herding his father's sheep in the area of Rooi Fluit on the north coast. His father took it to a local merchant who then sold the lump for \$70. Unbeknownst to the boy and his father, they quite literally struck gold, and as word got out, a gold fever spread among the locals who started searching for more gold.

When the colonial governor in Curacao, Governor Cantz'laar, heard about the news, he sent his adjutant, Capitan van Raders, to start harvesting gold. This was in July 1824. In august of that same year, the governor followed suit to the island, accompanied by high-ranking military officials. When citizens started swarming the area in search for gold, The Netherlands sent more troops to safe guard the gold.

Prominent places where gold was found was in Daimari, Wacobana, Arikok, Rooi Fluit, Hadicouradi and later West punt, where gold ore was found. Because of a lack in advanced technology and materials to harvest the gold, the process took a more primitive approach: Clay rocks containing traces of gold were left to dry in the sun. Then, workers would start chipping the clay away on a large canvas to catch the gold particles that were left behind after the wind blew away the dust from the

In the harvest period of 1824-1825, there was a total of 71,000 kilos collected through commissioned harvesting. Locals themselves reportedly found about 25 pounds worth of gold in the nearby rivers. The following years after that first big harvest, commission work fell off, and in 1828, the director of the goldmines, Johan Gravenhorst, decided to halt harvest-

Almost 40 years later, the London-based Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. was granted concession. The firm built their gold mines on Bushiribana, and in the port of Oranjestad a long road that connected the gold mill to the port. The ores themselves came from Sero Plat en Sero 2. Aruba Esso News, 1953 issue. Cristal.

By this point, workers were still using primitive methods to harvest the ores. For example, when someone had to go into the mines, there were no stairs or lifts; the person had to be brought down in a big bucket, with two or more workers holding the bucket by a thick rope above ground. Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. reportedly operated until 1899, and right after the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. was established, coincidentally also based in London. This time, the gold mill in Balashi was built, and more mines were dug up all around the island. The gold ores that were found were transported via track engine, locally called the "trekinchi". Despite being more equipped for the job, the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. could not produce any real profit, and so the concession was terminated just eight years later, in 1908.

A local firm, the "Aruba Goud Maatschappij" (Aruba Gold Company) took over the concession, along with all the materials and equipment. In the beginning, the company saw good profit, and for a while, the island's economy depended primarily on the mining and harvesting of gold. But just like its predecessors, the streak of luck for the Aruba Gold Company came to an end when WWI broke out.

The main reason why production stopped this time was reportedly because of a lack in dynamite for extracting the ores from the mines, as well as a lack in raw materials like German cyanide for the refining process. By the time the war ended, the equipment that was left at Balashi were too old to use again. After the war, gold production on the Aruba was left to a standstill.

According to an issue in Aruba Esso News paper in 1953, Henny Eman wanted to start up digging again, this time using independent miners. He argued that there was proof of more gold to be discovered. Plus, hiring independent miners would boost the island's employment rate.

When it was proven that gold was in fact still present, the executive board on the island promised to fund the project only if the gold dug up proved to be valuable. However, nothing else was reported after this, so it could be concluded that there was no real profitable market on the island anymore.

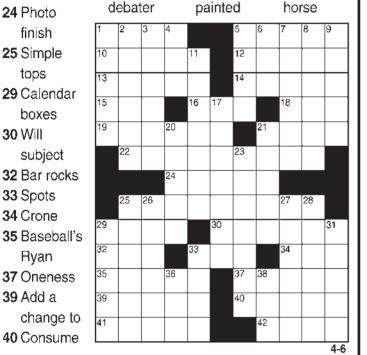
The ruins of the Bushiribana and Balashi Gold Mills are still standing, and open for the public to visit. These structures offer a glance into the past, to a time where Aruba experienced one of its first wave of industrialization. Today, these structures are persevered as historical monuments.

Source:

- 1. "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.



GOMAD HOMES CROSSWORD ARUBA ABOUT By THOMAS JOSEPH INTER VIRGO TWEETER **ACROSS** 41 Run-down SINANY 1 Tight-42 Basic fitting idea FOPTOE 5 Salad D|R|U|I|D A|N| GUS ERA **DOWN** servers ONESPOT 1 Rough 10 In shape CANOE 1 C I N G N I E C E 12 Dote on guesses ADDON GASES 2 Dietary 13 Texas Yesterday's answer restriction player 3 Fabricated 17 Was furious 28 Prestige 14 Variety 4 Berlin 20 Titled show 29 Kuwaiti lang. 15 Watering women coin 5 Sea dogs hole 21 Turn away 31 Sphinx 6 Pindar 16 Naval 23 Disputed setting poem initials 25 Puget 33 Tennis 7 Beginner 18 Quill need Sound city star 8 Gls, 19 Muck 26 Lace's Roddick slangily 21 Deeds place **36** Tiny 9 Tries 22 Some 27 Where worker to find diviners read them 11 Lincoln Gauquin **38** Old



AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-6 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

24 Photo

finish

25 Simple

tops

boxes

subject

30 Will

33 Spots

34 Crone

Ryan

39 Add a

RSIICQHTT NRHCTQ A N

SKTHOOH AU IPAKJHFT: CN'T

NRH SKCJCND NA MHSJ BCNR

NRHF. — TNHXH FSPSKAJC

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WHEN A CLOWN MOVES INTO A PALACE, HE DOESN'T BECOME A KING. THE PALACE BECOMES A CIRCUS. — TURKISH PROVERB

Cruise ship Schedule: July 01 - July 30 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
THU	04	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	С	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	В	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	С	1
WED	10	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	С	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	С	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	1	1
WED	17	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	С	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	С	1
			33.00			
TUE	30	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	С	1
·OL	00	OLLEDINI I DE I OND	00.00	21.00		_

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When trav- lets used on the island: type eling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than underprepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

11

A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep vourself and vour belongings safe.



NASA astronauts will stay at the space station longer for more troubleshooting of Boeing capsule

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN AP Science Writer

Two NASA astronauts will stay longer at the International Space Station as engineers troubleshoot problems on Boeing's new space capsule that cropped up on the trip there.

NASA on Friday did not set a return date until testing on the ground was complete and said the astronauts were safe.

"We're not in any rush to come home," said NASA's commercial crew program manager Steve Stich.

Veteran NASA test pilots Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams blasted off aboard Boeing's Starliner capsule for the orbiting laboratory on June 5. It was the first astronaut launch for Boeing after years of delays and setbacks.

The test flight was expected to last a week or so, enough time for Wilmore and Williams to check out the capsule while docked at the station. But problems with the capsule's propulsion system, used to maneuver the spacecraft, prompted NASA and Boeing to delay the flight home several times while they analyzed the trouble. They also wanted to avoid conflicting with spacewalks by station astronauts. But a spacewalk this week was canceled after water leaked from an astronaut's spacesuit. The issue hasn't been resolved and the planned spacewalk next week was postponed.

As Starliner closed in on the space station a day after launch, last-minute thruster failures almost derailed the docking. Five of

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Matadera 3N Unit-11 ARUBA 2 storey condo 3 bedrooms, 3 baths living / dinning room furnished, renovated painted. Pool \$425,000 USD furnished \$395,000 USD w/appliances suzanne@c21apt.com WhatsApp: 1-613-291-2121 In this photo provided by NASA, Boeing Crew Flight Test astronauts Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore, center, pose with Expedition 71 Flight Engineers Mike Barratt, left, and Tracy Dyson, both

In this photo provided by NASA, Boeing Crew Flight Test astronauts Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore, center, pose with Expedition 71 Flight Engineers Mike Barratt, left, and Tracy Dyson, both NASA astronauts, in their spacesuits aboard the International Space Station's Quest airlock on June 24, 2024.

Associated Press

the capsule's 28 thrusters went down during docking; all but one thruster was restarted.

Starliner already had one small helium leak when it rocketed into orbit and several more leaks sprung up during the flight. Helium is used to pressurize fuel for the thrusters. Boeing said this week that the two problems aren't a concern for the return trip.

In delaying the astronauts' return, NASA and Boeing said they needed more time to collect information about the thruster trouble and leaks while the capsule was docked. Both are in the service module, a unit attached to the capsule that burns up during reentry.

NASA initially said the Starliner could stay docked at the space station for up to 45 days due to battery limits.

But in-flight tests have shown that limit can be extended, Stich said. ☐





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Ever feel exhausted by swiping through dating apps? You might be experiencing burnout

By WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — While plenty of happy couples can trace their meet-cute moment to an online dating app, many others find the never-ending process of likes, swipes, taps and awkward DMs that go nowhere to be exhausting leading to a phenomenon known as "dating app burnout."

That was the case for Marilyn Espitia, a 31-year-old freelance photo editor and photographer in California who first ventured into online dating in college, when she met her former partner and now father of her child on OkCupid.

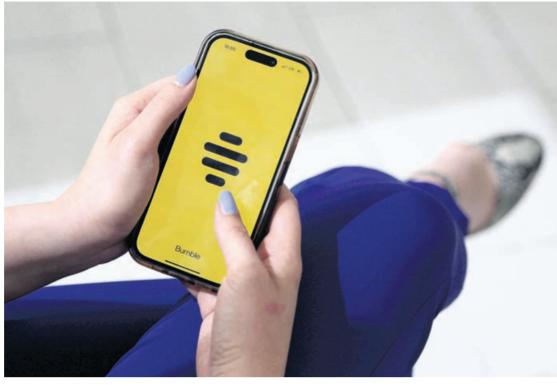
Today she is single, and has been for about three years. While she's still a "hopeless romantic" who plans to keep using these platforms primarily Hinge Espitia says she'll get off an app or pause her profile when it becomes a little too much. "It starts getting overwhelming," Espitia said.

Licensed clinical psychologist Yasmine Saad says that about 3 out of every 4 people she works with use dating apps, and anywhere between 80 to 90% have expressed feeling similar fatigue or burnout as Espitia at some point.

That's due in part because success is never promised with online dating, regardless of whether you're looking for a lifelong partner or casual fling.

"It's a very difficult process for people because you invest a lot, then you receive little," said Saad, founder and CEO of Madison Park Psychological Services in New York. "It triggers a lot of hopelessness and a lot of self-esteem issues."

Kathryn Coduto, an assistant professor of media science at Boston University who has been studying online dating since 2016, says dating app burnout is probably as old as the apps themselves, noting that people had experienced fatigue with earlier desktop-dominant platforms



The dating app Bumble is shown on a smart phone on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

like eHarmony or Match. com as well.

But these days, burnout may be intensified by the fact there's an app for just about every part of our daily lives, and that constant connectivity can be too much. Pandemic-era "Zoom fatigue" has spilled over into other areas of tech consumption, Coduto said, and online dating isn't immune.

That doesn't mean dating apps are going away anytime soon. Research shows usage has remained relatively stable over recent years. Pew Research Center said that 3 out of 10 U.S. adults reported ever using an online dating site or app as of July 2022 identical to the share found in October 2019, months before COVID-19 impacted much of daily life, including dating habits. While there was some uptick in new user downloads at the start of the pandemic, Coduto's research found more of a spike in usage from those who already had dating apps and were spending more time on them during lockdowns. But those same lockdowns also limited inperson interactions, and the ripple effects are still being felt today.

"The pandemic increased

loneliness," Saad said. "But it also boosted the hopelessness ... because even the apps were not meeting the needs of people for socialization."

For Jennifer Stavros, a free-

lance journalist in Los Angeles, her time in the online dating world has "been a mixed bag." While she's still giving platforms like Tinder, Hinge and OkCupid a try, Stavros notes she's experienced a recent cycle of matches that don't go far. "I have a conversation ... and it'll go okay. (But) then it will just drop, or it'll just hit a wall somewhere," Stavros, 42, said. "It's not making me feel super hopeful." Others add that it can also become easy to forget there are people on the other side of those swipes and likes, making them feel dismissed while looking for connections.

"I think that sense of swiping endlessly absolutely plays into burnout," Coduto said. "You're treating people like a card deck because that's what you're looking at." Yumei He, an assistant professor of management science at Tulane University's A. B. Freeman School of Business who has also been studying online dating, said that hurtful experiences such as being ghost-

ed can cause users to not trust a platform, or assume all future interactions there will end up the same way, leading them to log off and decide that "dating is important, but my security, my self (worth) is more important."

And of course, burnout doesn't look the same for everyone. Experiences can range widely depending on gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity. Researchers have found that women and genderqueer individuals, for example, are more likely to face harassment than men, while racial and ethnic minorities are often fetishized in online dating spaces, or experience other discrimination resulting from sexual racism.

The trauma of experiencing discrimination and other abuse on a dating app can make it very difficult to stay on a platform or trust it again, Coduto said.

Companies are increasingly navigating ways to address all of this. Hinge, for example, in April launched "Hidden Words," which allows its users to filter out words, phrases and emojis in their incoming likes and comments. A Hinge spokesperson says this feature is aimed at helping vulnerable groups par-

ticularly women, people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals avoid unwanted interactions based on personal preferences.

Gay dating and social networking app Grindr alerts users of potential safety threats in their area, which has been particularly critical for LGBTQ+ people in countries who may face police raids and other dangers, CEO George Arison said in an interview. Users are also able to "surf the grid" on incognito mode, which is typically a paid feature, for free in some locations, he added.

"All Grindr users are under some form of challenges in their lives," Arison said. "Our job has always been to create a safe environment for people to be who they are."

When asked about dating app burnout overall, Arison said "we've not seen any fatigue of Grindr users" but he noted there's growing hunger for innovation.

That's evidenced by the scores of updates that have recently emerged across various dating apps from a new prompts option on Bumble, which shifts how the platform historically facilitated its "first move," to Tinder's "Matchmaker" feature allowing friends to recommend profiles for each other and Hinge's tests of "your turn limits" to help fend off ghosting.

A handful of popular platforms, including Grindr and Tinder, say they've started integrating artificial intelligence to help identify potential harmful messages and other safety precautions. Some are also looking at AI possibilities such as using the technology to strengthen matching algorithms or offer users' message prompts and date ideas. "We are just scratching the tip of the iceberg," said Anindya Ghose, Heinz Riehl Chair Professor of technology and marketing at New York University's Stern School of Business, who believes AI could help alleviate burnout but transparency will be key.

Wimbledon 2024: Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray are in the draw after recent operations

By HOWARD FENDRICH **AP Tennis Writer**

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

- Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray both were placed in the Wimbledon bracket during Friday's draw despite coming off recent operations.

That's no guarantee either 37-year-old past champion at the All England Club will actually compete at the event that begins Monday. But Djokovic, at least, has looked in practice sessions this week as though he is ready to go, less than a month after having surgery for a torn meniscus in his right knee. He has won seven of his men's-record 24 Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon.

Murray, a two-time trophy winner at the grass-court tournament, made clear on Thursday that he would wait until the last moment to decide whether or not to play and was likelier to do so in doubles where he and his older brother. Jamie, were awarded a wild-card entry in singles. He had a cyst removed from his spinal



Novak Djokovic of Serbia plays a return during a training session on Court 2 at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, London, Friday, June 28, 2024. The Wimbledon Championships begin on July 1.

Associated Press

cord last weekend.

The unseeded Murray's first-round singles match against Tomas Machac of the Czech Republic will be scheduled for Tuesday, giving the Scot an extra day to try to be ready. It was in a match against Machac at the Miami Open in

March that Murray tore ligaments in his left ankle, one of a series of injuries he's dealt with in the latter stages of his career. Murray says he plans to retire after, he hopes, participating in Wimbledon and the Paris Olympics, which begin next month. Djokovic is also

slated to begin on Tuesday, going up against qualifier Vit Kopriva of the Czech Republic.

The men's quarterfinals could be No. 1 seed Jannik Sinner vs. No. 5 Daniil Medvedev, and defending champion Carlos Alcaraz vs. No. 8 Casper Ruud on

the top half of the bracket, with No. 2 Djokovic vs. No. 7 Hubert Hurkacz, and No. 4 Alexander Zverev vs. No. 6 Andrey Rublev on the bottom half.

That sets up a possible semifinal between Sinner, who is 22, and Alcaraz, 21. They are already developing quite a rivalry; Alcaraz beat Sinner in the semifinals at the French Open this month en route to the title there. There was a bit of confusion during the women's draw overseen by new tournament referee Denise Parnell when several names were placed on the wrong lines and needed to be reshuffled.

Top-seeded Iga Swiatek has never been past the quarterfinals at the All England Club and was given a path that could be filled with past Grand Slam champions. Her opening opponent will be 2020 Australian Open winner Sofia Kenin, who eliminated Coco Gauff in the first round at Wimbledon a year ago less than three months before Gauff would go on to win the U.S. Open.

Cavendish says he's ready to break his tie with Merckx for most Tour de France stage wins

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Mark Cavendish must have a big circle around Monday's third stage of the Tour de France.

The mostly flat 231-kilometer (144-mile) leg from Piacenza to Turin likely represents the race's first chance of a mass sprint finish. That means it's an opportunity for Cavendish to break one of the Tour's most hallowed records.

Cavendish equaled Eddy Merckx's mark of 34 stage wins during the 2021 Tour and went close to winning a 35th on the seventh stage in 2023. He crashed during the eighth stage last year, breaking his right collarbone.

He then put off retirement by a year to come back to the Tour and try again at breaking his tie with Mer-

There will be at least a handful of other opportunities for sprinters in this year's Tour, too, after the race crosses back into France following the first four stages in Italy.

"It's quite beautiful this year with the start in Florence, near where I lived for 10 years," Cavendish said on Friday. "Starting here, then going to France is just do but on an emotional level, it's very, very nice. I couldn't have asked for anything more. I think I'm more ready now (for retirement) than I was last year. I'm happy but I'm also so happy I carried on.

"We wouldn't be here if we didn't think it was possible

to win," the Astana rider added. "Realistically there are five or six chances, so we've come here to try to do it. I think we've got everything in place to try to do it but so does everyone

The 39-year-old Cavendish won his first Tour stage way back in 2008.

"I said before I started my career, if I could ever be in a book of names of riders that meant something, perfect. I've got a job to the big riders in the history of cycling, if my name is in that book, I would be hapру."

> Merckx, the Belgian considered the most dominant rider in cycling history, won his 34 individual stages at the Tour from 1969-75.

> Merckx was nicknamed "The Cannibal." Caven

dish, who comes from the Isle of Man, is known as "Cannonball" or "the Manx Missile."

Cavendish won the Tour's best sprinter green jersey twice and has also claimed stages at all three Grand Tours the Tour, Giro d'Italia and Spanish Vuelta and was the world champion in 2011.



Britain's Mark Cavendish greets spectators during the team presentation in Florence, Italy, Thursday, June 27, 2024, two days before the start of the Tour de France cycling race.

Associated Press



Judge, Harper elected to start in All-Star Game as top vote-getters in 1st round of fan balloting

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge and Philadelphia Phillies first baseman Bryce Harper were elected Thursday to start in the July 16 All-Star Game at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. A few hours later, Harper limped off the field with an apparent left hamstring injury after making the final out of Philadelphia's 7-4 loss to the Miami Marlins. He will undergo imaging Friday.

Judge led the major leagues with 3,425,309 votes in the first round of fan balloting and was picked for his sixth American League start in seven All-Star Games, though he missed last year because of a sprained right big toe. He also was the leading votegetter during the first phase in 2022.

He became the 11th player to lead the majors in votes on multiple occasions since fan balloting resumed in 1970, joining Ken Griffey Jr. (five times); Rod Carew (four); Ichiro Suzuki (three); and Hank Aaron, José Bau-



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge runs the bases after hitting a two-run home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, Saturday, June 22, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

tista, Johnny Bench, Albert Pujols, Cal Ripken Jr., Alex Rodriguez and Ozzie Smith (two each).

Harper topped the NL and was second in the big leagues with 3,277,920 votes. He was chosen for his eighth All-Star Game, seventh as a starter. His previous All-Star appearances

came as an outfielder and to the second phase, designated hitter. which runs from noon EDT

The pair were selected under rules that began in 2022 and give starting spots to the top vote-getter in each league in the first phase of online voting, which began June 5 and ended Thursday. Two finalists at every other position advanced

to the second phase, which runs from noon EDT on Sunday to noon EDT on June 30. Votes from the first phase do not carry over.

An individual can vote once per 24-hour period. Remaining starters will be announced on June 30. Pitchers and reserves will be revealed on July 7.

Six players each from the Baltimore Orioles and Philadelphia Phillies advanced to the second phase.

"Six players? That is really cool," Orioles manager Brandon Hyde said in Baltimore.

"I mean, two-thirds of the position players on the field are finalists. They're all so well-deserving. I hope they get a ton of votes and we send all six."

In the final days of the initial voting, Philadelphia's Kyle Schwarber overtook Atlanta's Marcell Ozuna for the second spot among NL designated hitters behind Los Angeles Dodgers star Shohei Ohtani.

Schwarber exited Thursday night's game in the ninth inning after experiencing left groin tightness.

Baltimore's Ryan O'Hearn moved ahead of Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton for second among designated hitters in the AL behind Houston's Yordan Alvarez. O'Hearn had been fourth, also trailing Cleveland's David Fry.

Jury orders NFL to pay nearly \$4.8 billion in 'Sunday Ticket' case for violating antitrust laws

By JOE REEDY AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A jury in U.S. District Court ordered the NFL to pay nearly \$4.8 billion in damages Thursday after ruling that the league violated antitrust laws in distributing out-of-market Sunday afternoon games on a premium subscription service.

The jury awarded \$4.7 billion in damages to the residential class and \$96 million in damages to the commercial class. Since damages can be tripled under federal antitrust laws, the NFL could end up being liable for \$14.39 billion.

The lawsuit covered 2.4 million residential subscribers and 48,000 businesses in the United States who paid for the package of out-of-market games from the 2011 through 2022 seasons on DirecTV. The law-

suit claimed the league broke antitrust laws by selling its package of Sunday games at an inflated price. The subscribers also say the league restricted competition by offering "Sunday Ticket" only on a satellite provider.

The NFL said it would ap-

peal the verdict. That appeal would go to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and then possibly the Supreme Court.

Should the NFL end up paying damages, it could cost each of the 32 teams approximately \$449.6 million. "We are disappointed with

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, right, leaves at federal court Monday, June 17, 2024, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

the jury's verdict today in the NFL Sunday Ticket class action lawsuit," the league said in a statement. "We continue to believe that our media distribution strategy, which features all NFL games broadcast on free over-the-air television in the markets of the participating teams and national distribution of our most popular games, supplemented by many additional choices including RedZone, Sunday Ticket and NFL+, is by far the most fan friendly distribution model in all of sports and entertainment.

"We will certainly contest this decision as we believe that the class action claims in this case are baseless and without merit."

The trial lasted three weeks and featured testimony from NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones.

"Justice was done. The verdict upholds protection for the consumers in our class. It was a great day for consumers," plaintiffs attorney Bill Carmody said.

During his closing remarks, Carmody showed an April, 2017, NFL memo that showed the league was exploring a world without "Sunday Ticket" in 2017, where cable channels would air Sunday afternoon out-of-market games not shown on Fox or CBS.

The jury of five men and three women deliberated for nearly five hours before reaching its decision.

Judge Philip S. Gutierrez is scheduled to hear post-trial motions on July 31, including the NFL's request to have him rule in favor of the league because the judge determined the plaintiffs did not prove their case.